

**North School Preservation Society**  
**Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, March 3, 2026**

**Attendance:** Richard Willard, Ginny Ricker, Francine Provost, Dave Hall, Margery Burbank, Fred and Linda Kingsbury

Richard called the meeting to order at 11 a.m. in the warming hut. (*Note*; due to inclement weather the regular 6 p.m. meeting time was rescheduled to 11 a.m.)

**Minutes of the November 4, 2025**, were motioned and approved.

**Note:**

There was no regular annual meeting in December due to inclement weather. Biannual election of officers was voted and approved online for the following officers to serve from 2026 through 2027: Richard Willard, President; Francine Provost, Vice President; Ginny Ricker, Treasurer. Trustees: Dave Hall, Margery Burbank, Moe Gilchrist. (Secretary position is vacant.)

**Treasurer's Report**

Ginny distributed the treasurer's report for February, which consisted of minor expenses and minor income from online sales. The report will stand for audit.

**Estimated 2026 Budget**

Ginny reviewed the projected budget for 2026. Based on the previous year's income and expenses, and projected expenses, it was determined that, barring unforeseen events, NSPS hopes to have an income of approximately \$9,000, in line with previous years' income. Income for the year is projected to include yard sale revenue, online sales, membership and donations. Expenses are estimated to include utilities, administrative and postage fees and property insurance. Dumpster disposal fees, if any, remain to be determined. Also, pending the Town Meeting vote, property

taxes may have to be considered. Expenses for upcoming property maintenance and repairs will be decided as needed.

## **Old Business**

### Building Issues

*Basement Windows and Building Foundation* - Dave advised members about the deteriorated condition of the basement windows on the north side of the school building. Members agreed that, as Dave recommends, they should be removed and bricked in. The foundation bricks on the driveway side of the building are crumbling and badly in need of replacement. Dave will consult with Moe and contact a bricklayer/stonemason to fix the foundation where repairs are most needed.

*Cellar lights* – Dave replaced six cellar lights.

*Dumpster and Dog Park Refuse* – Dog owners using the park have been forcing bags of dog refuse into the school dumpster in the driveway, even though there is a designated refuse bin at the dog park and a sign instructing users to dispose of waste in it. There may be some confusion about this when the dog park is closed during the winter. Furthermore, it was reported that the designated dog park refuse bin has not been replaced. Members asked that a sign forbidding dog refuse be posted on school dumpster, and that the town and Lions Club be advised of this issue.

### Other Issues

*Donations* – Ginny reminded members that we are shorthanded regarding members and volunteers needed to sort, clean, price and display incoming donations. Though there is a sign posted notifying donors of unacceptable items, we are often burdened with indiscriminate donations not worthy of resale. She suggested that members adopt a policy among ourselves to dispose of or recycle unacceptable and unworthy donations before sorting, cleaning or storing them. This will save time and energy, as well as space

in the building. There is a general need for more members and volunteers for these tasks, and members are asked for suggestions to recruit others.

### *Yard Sales*

Members proposed the following dates (Saturdays) for this year's monthly yard sales: May 9; June 13; July 11; August 8; September 12; (*tentatively October 3 or October 10*) November 7.

### **Miscellaneous Business**

*Memorial for Dottie Garland* – Longtime member Dottie Garland passed away on January 6. A memorial for her will be held on Saturday, March 21, at 1 p.m. at the North Springfield Baptist Church. Members agreed to procure flowers for her from our organization.

The meeting was motioned and adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

*Next meeting: Tuesday, April 7, 2026, 6 p.m. in the hut.*